FLORIDA HEALTH IN MARTIN COUNTY SENDS SPECIAL THANKS DURING NATIONAL NURSES WEEK



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Martin County, FL – The Florida Department of Health in Martin County celebrates the important role that nurses play to keep everyone in our community healthy.

Nursing is a diverse field and public health nurses work in many settings including providing immunizations, conducting and following up on testing for diseases and infections, educating people about the importance of healthy lifestyles and working with children, families and staff in our schools to ensure that students are healthy and ready to learn.

"Nursing is about taking care of people and communities." said Karlette Peck, Health Officer for the Florida Department of Health in Martin County. "We proudly salute our dedicated public health nurses who work in our clinics and out in the community to promote, protect and educate people about health and issues affecting health."

Nurses continue to be high-demand in Florida. The Florida Center for Nursing (FCN) estimates that by 2025 Florida will have a shortage of at least 50,300 registered nurses, or 56,000 registered nurses and 12,500 licensed practical nurses.

To respond to the growing nursing shortage, the department joined the enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact in January 2018, allowing registered nurses and licensed practical nurses who hold licensure in one Compact state to practice in any of the 27 Compact states without having to obtain additional licenses. Florida now issues a multi-state license to new applicants who meet the Compact licensure requirements; nurses who reside in Florida and hold an active, unrestricted license will also have the option to convert from a standard Florida license to a multi-state license.

For more information regarding the enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact please visit the Florida Board of Nursing web page at http://floridanursing.gov/.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts. Follow us on Twitter at <u>@GoHealthyMartin</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit <u>www.MartinCountyHealth.com</u>